

# **DNREC Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police Blotter: Feb. 25-March 3**

*Reminder for the week: Crabbers reminded to prepare crab pots for new season*

**DOVER** – To achieve public compliance with laws and regulations through education and enforcement actions that help conserve Delaware's fish and wildlife resources and ensure safe boating and public safety, DNREC's Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police officers between Feb. 25 to March 3 made 1,861 contacts with hunters, anglers, boaters, and the general public, issuing 4 citations. Officers responded to 56 complaints regarding possible violations of laws and regulations or requests to assist the public. A Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police presence continued at the C&D Canal Conservation Area and Michael N. Castle Trail.

## **Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police Actions**

Citations issued by category, with the number of charges in parentheses, included:

**Public Safety:** Possession of marijuana (1)\*.

**Other:** Trespassing after hours on a state wildlife area (2)\* and littering/dumping on state wildlife area (1).

*\*Includes citation(s) issued at the C&D Canal Conservation Area.*

DNREC's Division of Fish & Wildlife recognizes and thanks the majority of anglers, hunters, and boaters who comply with and support Delaware's fishing, hunting, and boating laws and

regulations. Citizens are encouraged to report fish, wildlife, and boating violations to the Delaware Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police by calling 302-739-4580 or through the DENRP Tip app on a smartphone, which can be downloaded free of charge by searching "DENRP Tip" via the Google Play Store or the iTunes App Store. Wildlife violations may also be reported anonymously to Operation Game Theft by calling 800-292-3030, going online to <http://de.gov/ogt>, or using the DENRP Tip app. Verizon customers can connect to Operation Game Theft directly by dialing #OGT.

### **Are you AWARE?**

Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police remind recreational crabbers to repair crab pots and replace or refresh required markings before putting crab pots in the water. Recreational crab pots must be marked with the owner's full name and permanent mailing address, either on the required white buoy or on a waterproof tag attached to the buoy.

Recreational crabbers also should check the condition of the required terrapin (turtle) by-catch reduction device, a rigid metal or plastic frame with an opening measuring no larger than 1.75 inches by 4.75 inches that must be attached at the funnel entrance of all recreational crab pots to reduce the possibility of diamondback terrapins entering the pot and drowning. By-catch reduction devices are available at local tackle shops or may be handmade of heavy wire. For additional information on diamondback terrapins and instructions to install a terrapin excluder device on a recreational crab pot, [click here](#).

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**Contact:** Lt. John McDerby, 302-354-1386, or Fish & Wildlife

Natural Resources Police, 302-739-9913